

SUMMARY

Water Resources Council

Wednesday, April 3, 2024
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
In-Person at NCTCOG
William Pitstick Conference Room, First Floor
Centerpoint Two Building
616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, Texas, 76011

Chair: Stacy Walters, City of Fort Worth

Vice-Chair: Rachel Ickert, Tarrant Regional Water District

1. Welcome and Introductions.

NCTCOG staff introduced Corinne Buckley, a new planner who will help facilitate the Water Resources Council.

ACTION ITEM

2. Meeting Summary. The <u>January 10, 2024 meeting summary</u> and the Special Session February 7, 2024 meeting summary will be presented for approval.

Paul Hackleman, City of Watauga, made a motion to approve both meeting summaries. Tim Abbott, City of Plano, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION

3. Water Environment Association of Texas' InFLOW Program. Tanya Miro, Co-Chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee for Water Environment Association of Texas will present on the Introducing Future Leaders to Opportunities in Water (InFLOW) program, which provides mentorship, skills development, and applicable experiences to students seeking to join the water sector after graduation. The presentation will include ways water professionals can support emerging water leaders.

Tanya Miro, Water Environment Association of Texas (WEAT), shared about the InFLOW program and its work to provide mentorship to the next generation of water professionals. Her presentation begins on slide 5 of the <u>presentation slides</u>. During Tanya's presentation, only a portion of the video on slide 11 was able to play. The full video can be viewed <u>here</u>.

DISCUSSION

4. 2024 Update to the North Central Texas Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP). NCTCOG will provide an update on the progress of this deliverable, including new activities conducted during fiscal year 2024.

NCTCOG updated the council on the timeline for finalizing the 2024 WQMP update. The document will be available for public comment around the end of May and will be open for 30



days. At the July WRC meeting, the council will vote on whether to approve the Draft 2024 WQMP Update. The Executive Board will vote on approving the plan update at its meeting in August.

NCTCOG also discussed the progress of new deliverables in the WQMP program. NCTCOG has been looking for opportunities to promote urban forestry efforts and will host two workshops with Texas Trees Foundation and Texas A&M Forest Service. The first workshop will be on May 14, 2024 (Register and Add to Calendar), and the second workshop will be on June 5, 2024 (Register and Add to Calendar). Both workshops are designed to support local governments looking to start or further existing forestry activities.

5. 2024 Water Resources Questionnaire Update. NCTCOG will provide an update on the Water Resources Questionnaire and will discuss a new timeline for the questionnaire's distribution.

NCTCOG discovered an incongruence between the quarterly report to TCEQ and the contract's Scope of Work regarding the 2024 Water Resources Questionnaire. Upon seeking further clarification from TCEQ, it was concluded that the questionnaire is to be sent only once in a contract, not once in a fiscal year, which changes the distribution timeline. The Water Resources Questionnaire will be distributed when NCTCOG begins work on the new contract, which is anticipated to be during the month of April 2024.

6. FY25 Call for Nominations, Reappointments, and Nominations Subcommittee Process. NCTCOG will discuss the process and details regarding the FY25 WRC roster, including term reappointments and filling vacant seats. The council will vote to approve the proposed new roster at its July meeting.

NCTCOG discussed the timeline for nominations and reappointments. Council members whose two-year term ends in FY25 will be up for reappointment at the next council meeting. Prior to that meeting, NCTCOG staff will send out an electronic form to members with expiring terms to indicate whether or not they will seek reappointment. Once vacancies have been established, NCTCOG will send out a call for nominations and members not up for reappointment will be invited to serve on a Nominations Subcommittee to review new council applications. Council members are encouraged to think of peers and colleagues that they believe would be a good fit for the council.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

- **7. NCTCOG Updates.** NCTCOG will update the WRC on recent and upcoming items of interest.
 - a. Updates on NCTCOG's Dallas- Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan

The Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan (DFW AQIP) has been submitted to, and approved by, EPA. The complete plan can be viewed on the <u>DFW AQIP website</u>. NCTCOG submitted an application on April 1, 2024, to EPA for DFW AQIP implementation funds through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program.



b. Public Works Roundup- Call for Presenters and Registration Coming Soon.

August 22, 2024, at The Hurst Conference Center (1601 Campus Dr, Hurst, TX 76054) from 9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m.

NCTCOG will host the Public Works Roundup on August 22, 2024. (<u>Add to Calendar</u>). A call for presenters will be out in May and registration will open in June. Interested parties can learn more at <u>NCTCOG</u>'s <u>Public Works Roundup page</u>.

- **8. Future Agenda Items.** The committee will have an opportunity to request future agenda items. Council members suggested adding the following agenda items to the running list of future agenda items:
 - The history and purpose of the WRC and its structure within NCTCOG, which will be the focus of the October meeting as a welcome to the council's new members
 - The water and energy nexus, specifically renewable energy's role in water distribution and production
 - Understanding how the ongoing changes in technology impact water distribution and treatment
 - Workforce development in the water profession, including how to foster greater regional collaboration to support new professionals in the industry
 - Cyber security
 - Connecting to HOAs and other entities to provide more equitable service to communities
 - Keeping rates affordable while managing the region's growth.
 - Managing PFAS concerns among new guidelines, specifically how this impacts biosolid disposal
- **9. Roundtable.** WRC members are invited to share what is happening in their communities.
 - Billy George, North Texas Municipal Water District, shared that the board approved two projects related to PFAS management, including a comprehensive PFAS roadmap.
 - Jerry Pressley, City of Fort Worth, is presenting an informal report on PFAS to the city council and updating the five-year drought and water conservation plans. The city is also developing plans that would limit receiving landfill leachate from other entities.
 - Bill Gase, City of Arlington Water Utilities shared that the city is increasing cyber security measures, including the addition of SCADA intrusion monitoring and updating Emergency Response Plans.
 - Cynthia Baughman, City of Garland, will be speaking at the Texas Water 2024 conference on a pilot project.
 - Valerie Miller, Olsson, will be speaking at the Texas Water 2024 conference on public engagement. Olsson is also engaged in a water plan update, specifically looking at how changes in land use impact water supply demand.
 - Michael Kivlan, Texas Water Utilities shared that the Texas Water Utilities completed their merger with Southwest Water Company on April 1, 2024, making them the second largest private water and wastewater utility in the state.
 - Kelly Rouse, City of Lewisville shared that the city is expanding the wastewater plant from 12 MGD to 20 MGD.



- Danielle Tucker, Deva Services, is participating in the North Texas Community Cleanup Challenge (NTCCC) at Glennwood Park on April 6. She is also helping to develop the historic Southside on the Park Master Plan and is looking for further engagement from HOAs.
- Glenn Clingenpeel, Trinity River Authority shared that TCEQ approved a permit for 2 micrograms per liter of phosphorus and discussed a potential biosolids ban due to PFAS' potential to poison land and livestock.
- Tim Abbott, City of Plano, shared that Plano just finished cybersecurity penetration testing and is using software to determine swag power times to understand its impact on equipment. The city is looking at controls to see what is out of date and needs updating.
- Grace Darling, Arlington Conservation Council, did not have any updates. Grace asked
 questions regarding the support utilities providers are getting from the state regarding
 PFAS management. Council members discussed how PFAS impacts the body, and
 how current regulations can leave providers vulnerable to using expensive treatment
 methods to address a problem they did not create.
- Rachel Ickert, Tarrant Regional Water District, discussed making updates to the strategic conservation plan and looking for additional conservation ideas.
- Haley Salazar (alternate for Stephen Gay), City of Denton, shared that the city is making updates to the conservation plan, including a year-round twice-a-week irrigation schedule. The city has begun publishing daily water demand data and there has been significant customer interest. The city is also growing its effluent reuse program for irrigation and other non-potable uses.
- Matthew Jalbert, Trinity River Authority, shared that a PFAS lab will be rolled out to all
 of DFW at the end of August. TRA is waiting for a permit from TCEQ for facility
 expansion. The Authority is getting a lot of calls from MUDs for sewer service.
- Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity River Water District, encouraged people to visit watermyyard.org to help users understand how to water their yards efficiently and monitor their soil moisture.
- Paul Hackleman, City of Watauga, shared that the city is reviewing whether to implement AMI meters.
- Sally Wright, City of Dallas, shared that the city is about to move forward with AMI metering. The city is working on a water conservation program and water facilities strategic master plan. The city is using SCADA to address cyber security issues.
- Steve Pettit, City of Irving, shared that the city is updating the drought management and contingency plan due May 1.
- Kumar Gali, City of Waxahachie, shared that he is looking to connect with other groups and get more involved in the Water Resources Council.
- Stephanie Griffin, HALF, did not have any updates to report.
- Caesar Sanchez, City of Addison, shared that the city is implementing AMI metering and working on non-destructive testing methods.
- **10. Next Meeting.** The next WRC meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday**, **July 10**, **2024**, at 10:30 a.m.- Online. Add to Calendar

Meeting date for the remainder of 2024:



 Wednesday, October 9, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.- In-person at NCTCOG; Add to Calendar

11. Adjournment.

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Alyssa Knox by phone at (817) 608-2363 or by email at aknox@nctcog.org.

Additional NCTCOG Meetings of Interest

- a. Public Works Council Meeting- Add to Calendar
- b. Wastewater and Treatment Education Roundtable (WATER)- Add to Calendar

If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements at the meeting, please contact Ashley Barnett by phone at (817) 608-2363 or by email at abarnett@nctcog.org 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Reasonable accommodation will be made to assist your needs.